Accelerated Bridge Program
10 Park Plaza, Rm. 6500
Boston, MA 02116

Innovation, Efficiency, Transparency

A variable message board

Morton St. Bridge Replacement Team:

- *Governor Deval Patrick*
- *Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray*
- *Jeffrey Mullan, Transportation Secretary*
- *Luisa Paiewonsky, Highway Division Administrator*
- *Frank Tramontozzi, Chief Engineer*
- *Shoukry Elnahal, Deputy Chief Engineer for Bridges & Tunnels*
- *Alex Bardow, State Bridge Engineer, Director of Technical Services*
- *Tom Donald, Director of Project Development*
- *Walter Heller, Director of Project Delivery & Preservation*
- *Matt Hopkinson, Project Manager*
- *Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, Consulting Engineers*

Community Engagement and Outreach

Q: How will MassDOT communicate with the public regarding the project?

A: We will communicate in multiple ways to make sure that the community and travelling public are well-informed regarding all aspects of this special, historic project. Once we select a contractor, we will hold a pre-construction meeting to review the details of the bridge construction.

Expect to see variable message boards; road signs; flyers such as this posted at community centers, libraries, and on the web; multimedia coverage; MassDOT blog postings, tweets, MBTA bus signs and more.

You can learn more about this project by viewing the materials used during presentations online. You can also look up information using *Project Info* on the MassDOT site.

You may also contact MassDOT for more information at *feedback@state.ma.us.*

MassDOT BLOG twitter YouTube flickr MassDOT Social Media

Visit us online!

Project Info

- ABP home page: www.mass.gov/acceleratedbridges
- MassDOT Blog: www.mass.gov/blog/transportation
- Project Info Site: go to www.mass.gov/massdot/highway, then click on the project info icon at the bottom right of the page

Structure Description: Boston, B-16-163, Morton St. over MBTA and CSX Railroad.

Project Info Number: 603654

Advertising date: August 14, 2010

Bridge Owner: MassDOT

Project Owner: MassDOT, Accelerated Bridge Program

June 21, 2010

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Morton St. Bridge Replacement

Project Overview

Governor Deval Patrick's Accelerated Bridge Program (ABP) is currently designing a new bridge to replace the structurally deficient bridge which carries Morton Street across the MBTA Commuter Rail Tracks in Mattapan. MassDOT has chosen to use Accelerated Bridge Construction Methods for this site to minimize the impacts of construction on the community.

This bridge project will be among the first in the state to utilize Accelerated Bridge Construction techniques, meaning that MassDOT will build the new bridge off-site and move it into place with special heavy lifting equipment. Accelerated Bridge Construction Techniques allow the bridge to be replaced while all four lanes of traffic are open (except for a ten-day road closure). In contrast, conventional methods require years of lane closures and traffic delays while construction occurs.

This winter we will dismantle the abandoned police building, performing all necessary pest control. By removing the building we create a work area for constructing the replacement bridge. The next step is to build a utility crossing so that the bridge demolition and construction can occur without interrupting utility service. Once we complete the new bridge section, we will demolish the existing bridge and move the new one into place.

We will need to close the bridge for the final demolition and installation of the new bridge. We will close it for the move at 10:00 PM on a Friday in the fall of 2011 and reopen it at 5:00 AM two Mondays later. We will install a pedestrian crossing so that pedestrians will always have a means of crossing the MBTA tracks.

There will be vigorous public outreach in the months before the closure to ensure public awareness of the project and bridge closure. To date, MassDOT has held two public information meetings and two public hearings to inform the public about the Morton Street Bridge Replacement Project and to provide an opportunity for the members of the community to ask questions. MassDOT has also attended community meetings and has met with local officials to discuss the project.

As a result of the public input gained at these meetings, MassDOT has added additional street lighting, improved pedestrian access, and modified bus routes.

This brochure is intended to be part of the overall public outreach for the project, providing answers to the many of the questions asked about the project during the public meetings and hearings. MassDOT's ABP communicates with the public through many channels. Public Meetings and Hearings are announced on the website and in local newspapers. The presentation materials are available on our website, too.

We have designed this project to have the absolute minimum impact on the surrounding community's residents, businesses and the travelling public.

The project is currently in the design stage, so the details you'll read in this document may change as the design progresses. You will notice that detour routes have not been finalized, for example. Our goal is to inform you as much as we can today— and keep you informed in the future.

Rendering courtesy of FST

Anticipated Project Milestones:

Advertising Date— 8/14/2010

Begin Site Preparation— 12/2010

Bridge closure for move— 10 PM on a Friday in Fall, 2011

Reopen bridge to traffic— 5 AM two Mondays after closure

(bridge closed for no more than 10 days)

Ensuring Safety and Health

Q: How will asbestos be removed and how will MassDOT ensure environmental safety during this project?

A: Safety and health are the primary concerns of MassDOT. The Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) requires certain studies be conducted prior to the start of removing asbestos and hazardous materials. MassDOT consultants have generated three reports to meet these requirements. They describe the locations and amounts of hazardous materials on-site, including asbestos, lead, mercury, and other materials usually found in older buildings.

MassDEP requires third-party oversight of hazardous material cleanup and removal. These Licensed Site Professionals are held liable for their thoroughness in cleaning up contaminated sites. A Licensed Site Professional will oversee the removal and cleanup of the contaminated material that would otherwise be disturbed by construction.

The abandoned police building will be demolished as part of this project.

Before MassDOT dismantles the building, a licensed asbestos abatement contractor will remove all asbestos and hazardous materials in accordance MassDEP regulations to ensure the neighborhood is not exposed to any of the materials. Among other methods, plastic sheeting will be used to cover all openings in the building. The asbestos insulation will be moistened to prevent airborne movement and special vacuum cleaners will remove all traces of dust from the inside of the building, as well as from the workers' clothing each time they exit the building.

MassDOT has a department that makes sure MassDEP is aware of all environmental conditions and that they are satisfied with the outcome.

In order to ensure rodent control, MassDOT will adopt the specifications of the City of Boston Inspectional Services Department. We will set traps prior to removing building materials. We will maintain the traps on a regular basis. The contractor will be held responsible for rodent control.

If you have any concerns or complaints, email us at *feedback@state.ma.us.* Complaints will be

School Buses

Q: How will parents and guardians be notified of potential changes to school bus stops, routes and schedules during the ten-day closure period?

A: Schools determine their bus routes and stops each year based on student needs. The City of Boston Public School Department will notify parents and guardians of any changes to their bus routes. If you have any questions, contact the City of Boston School Dept. Hotline at 617-630-9520

Utility Service

Q: Will utility service be interrupted?

A: Due to utility redundancy in the area, we do not anticipate any interruption to utility service. Redundancy means that if one avenue of service needs to be closed temporarily, residents will be served by another. If an interruption must occur, you will be notified by the utility company in question in advance of the interruption.

Commuter Rail

Q: Will there be any interruption in commuter rail service during this project?

A: No. This project will not affect commuter rail service. Commuter rail trains will continue to operate on their regular schedule for the duration of the project and pedestrian access to the platforms will be available at all times during construction.

Reducing Business Impacts

Q: How will MassDOT minimize impacts on businesses during construction?

A: MassDOT has designed this project and selected the method of construction with the intent of reducing the impact to the community, travelling public and local businesses to the greatest extent possible.

MassDOT has designed the new Safety railings so that they will not interfere with the visibility of the businesses on Morton Street. In addition, during construction, people will always have access to the businesses on Morton Street.

The Accelerated Bridge Program does not have funding to mitigate construction's impacts on businesses, but the duration of construction impacts will be quite brief for this project— the road closure will be limited to ten days.

Currently all communities throughout the Commonwealth cope with the effects of construction projects. It is our goal that this project will serve as an example of how MassDOT can design innovative projects which will to reduce the community impacts of construction.

Maintaining MBTA Service for Bus Passengers

Q: How will the bridge closure affect local bus routes?

A: The ten-day bridge closure will affect the #21 and #26 bus routes. Although final routes have not yet been determined, MassDOT is working with the MBTA to develop the best possible bus route plan to make sure the bridge closure disrupts service as little as possible. For your reference, we've provided current maps of the #21 and #26 along with their proposed detour routes.

Q: How will the MBTA notify users?

A: The MBTA will notify users of bus detours via road signs and signs on buses. MassDOT will engage the community through many forms of media in the weeks and months prior to the ten-day closure.

The community will be notified when MassDOT determines the final bus detour routes.